

CONFIDENTIAL**REPORT**

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COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)**DATE DISTR.** 1 Feb., 1954**SUBJECT** Lifting of Ban on Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages by Soviet Officers**NO. OF PAGES** 1**DATE OF INFORMATION****REFERENCES:**

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PLACE ACQUIRED**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

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1. [redacted] on several occasions that a recent order of Marshal BULGANIN had lifted the drinking ban imposed on Soviet military personnel in Germany during the time of General CHUYKOV (former CG of GOPG). I remember that in this alleged authorization the officers referred to the above period as "CHUYKOV's dry regime". I do not know whether this change of policy was a part of Marshal BULGANIN's order issued [redacted] I think it most probably was. As I understood [redacted] and from what the soldiers discussed among themselves, the new policy authorized officers to consume alcoholic beverages in their messes and clubs located within the barracks area as well as in any German establishments serving such beverages. It was my impression that this new policy was accepted with great enthusiasm by the officers, who had felt very bitter about CHUYKOV's prohibition order for Soviet personnel in Germany. I am not able to give any information on the results of this new policy. I personally never saw an officer who was drunk and never heard rumors that any officers had become intoxicated or had misbehaved in any German establishment in Berlin.
 2. I assumed that the alleged new policy lifting the prohibition ban did not apply to enlisted personnel, since on the few occasions that EM from my regiment were taken on group passes to Berlin they were not allowed to have any alcoholic drinks (not even beer) in the German establishments which they visited.
 3. During the same period there was some talk that there was a paragraph in Marshal BULGANIN's same order instructing Army authorities to provide better food in EM messes. [redacted] no improvement in the quality of quantity of food served to EM.
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